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PLENTY OF FREE PARKING

The Indianapolis Radio Club meets on the 2nd and 4th Friday of each month at the Indianapolis Park Board Building located at 29th and Harding Streets. Meetings start promptly at 8:00 P.M., E.S.T.

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Ama-Chewer is published monthly by and for I.R.C. and all Amateurs in this area. Non-Members of I.R.C. may subscribe at the rate of \$1.00 per year.

Publication is on the 3rd Friday of each month, with all news items and ads due no later than the first Friday of each month.

Ham-Ads (5 line limit) are free to members and subscribers. Others may use this facility at the rate of 50 cents per ad.

Ama-Chewer welcomes the forwarding of information on coming events of other clubs in the area for publication in the program section.

PROGRAM REVIEW

JANUARY 25th - Transistor talk by Indiana SCM, W9FWH

All of our Club members are encouraged to bring a friend to this meeting. The talk to be presented by W9FWH, is expected to be one of the most informative, as well as entertaining presentations of the year.

Remember, there is always plenty of coffee and doughnuts, as well as soft drinks for those who don't like "that thar strong stuff" in the big "bull session" which follows every meeting.

We will be looking forward to meeting both you and your friends at this meeting.

Here are a few important dates which you Club members will definitely want to keep in mind:

May 10th Home Brew Nite

May 24th Indianapolis Radio Club Auction

June 22nd FIELD DAY

As has been the custom for several years, the Indianapolis Radio Club will hold its annual Home Brew Nite the second Friday in May. This evenings program is in honor of the many experimenters not only in the Club, but throughout the Indianapolis area. Now is the time to start thinking about a worthwhile construction project which will be sure and win this year's prize.

For fun and excitement, you just can't beat an old fashioned auction, especially when radio amateurs are involved. The first part of the evening is devoted to talk and display of the equipment to be auctioned. Then we get down to the business of the auction itself. Before too long, we would suggest that you, and the XYL, go through that old closet and dig out the worthwhile items which you no longer need that may be of benefit to other hams in the area.

PRESIDENT'S FREQUENCY

This may sound corny, but I really feel amazed and flattered that you have elected me to President. Since I am a comparative newcomer to ham radio and even more of a newcomer to the club, it seem astounding that you would choose me instead of the many more experienced and capable members. However, I shall do my best to serve you and to keep up the Club's outstanding reputation.

To do this, I, and the other officers, need to know what you want. Tell us what you'd like to see in the way of programs and activities. If you know of someone who could put on a good talk for the Club, tell us. If you want a program on a certain subject, tell us. If you don't like something that has been done, tell us, so we can take corrective action in the future.

I believe a hobby club should be an organization which provides entertainment and education that its members cannot obtain singlehandedly. For a starter, my "platform" in keeping with this idea of a club, shall be to see continuation of projects already underway: the 2-meter handy talky project, the code practice classes, and continued improvement of the AMA-CHEWER.

For a longer range program, I would like to see the Club engage in some community-wide public service project, although I confess I haven't any idea just what. Your suggestions will be appreciated.

Thank you for the honor of becoming your president. I can do a lot for the Indianapolis Radio Club...with your help.

73,

DE, K9KTL

THE EYE BANK NET

Last month the AMA-CHEWER contained two letters regarding the probable establishment of an "Eye Bank Net." Since that time the "Eye Bank Net" has been in operation and is proving to be a very useful and rewarding project.

The primary function of the net is to assist the Eye Banks throughout the middle west in obtaining eyes for corneal transplants where an emergency situation exists. That is, in cases where an eye is needed rather urgently in order to save the sight of an individual and no eyes are available in the particular locality where they are needed.

About two weeks ago a call was received from Oklahoma City urgently requesting an eye for corneal transplant. This call was received by the net stations at 1405 GMT. By 1400 GMT an eye was shipped from the Chicago eye bank and by 2330 GMT the transplant had been completed.

It was later learned that a two year old girl had accidentally injured one of her eyes and that a transplant was imperative in order to save the sight of the other eye.

The net has assisted in obtaining an eye in one other similar situation and in two more cases where eyes were needed and two of the member eye banks had a surplus of eyes available to meet the need.

The net meets each morning, except Sunday, at 0300 GMT on approximately 3970 kc. Stations are now checking in from each of the following cities: Oklahoma City; Iowa City; Chicago; Indianapolis; Columbia, Missouri; Denver; Omaha; Kansas City and St. Louis.

The net operates exclusively on SSB at the present time and stations interested in participation should contact Pat Husk, K9EUQ at CL 3-2220.

"QNI"

"Thank Heavens. I've been worried out of my mind." That was all an Indianapolis mother could say when a radio amateur delivered to her a message from her son, saying he was okay after a typhoon at Guam.

Not all traffic handled by hams is this dramatic, but enough of it is to make it all worthwhile. And even the routine messages provide a feeling of pride in his ability for the ham who helps move them on their way.

Anyone with a 6L6 and a rush box can handle traffic when conditions are good, but now that the sunspot cycle is knocking the low bands, where a lot of the traffic moves, for a wild loop, it is sometimes a real test of operating skill to get the message through. But the work never takes away the thrill and sense of accomplishment that comes with traffic work.

If you're already a traffic handler, you know what we mean. If you're not, give it a try. The frequencies and operating hours for the three state-wide traffic nets are:

Indiana Phone Net	3910 kc.	1330 GMT daily and 2330 GMT Mon. thru Fri.
Indiana Sideband Net	3920 kc.	2400 GMT daily
Indiana CW Net	3656 kc.	2400 GMT daily

There are many other nets, covering larger and smaller areas, that we'll get into in future editions of this traffic column. Try monitoring one or more of these nets for a few sessions to see how the business is handled, then begin checking in yourself and become a part of the traffic gang. QRV?

de K9KTL

Do you belong to a radio club or similar organization, other than the Indianapolis Radio Club? If so, the AMA-CHEWER would like to hear about your club and its activities. We would suggest that you check with your club secretary and Board of Directors and then write to the Editor of the AMA-CHEWER. We would like to know the names of your clubs, present Board members, the club's meeting time, meeting place, how often you club meets, and your current club project.

Writing skill, or editorial ability is not really essential. All we really need is the facts, written in either outline form or in briefs.

We feel that this will provide your club with an excellent opportunity to advertise not only its meetings, but any special activities such as auctions, and outstanding programs.

SPLATTER

The AMA-CHEWER is pleased to announce that Ruth and Don Litwiler are the proud grandparents of a new baby boy. The future ham's name is Brian Scott Litwiler and he weighed in at 9 pounds 4 oz. Our hearty congratulations to Ruth and Don, their son and daughter-in-law. We would also like to know when the code practice sessions will start.

Cliff Singer, W9SWD, is in the process of replacing his 813 rig with a Ranger-Thunderbolt combination. Cliff tells us that RTTY is really good on 80 meters during this winter season. He has worked as far West as Kansas City and as far East as New York and New Jersey.

HEATHKIT MODEL HR-20

The HR-20 receiver is designed to receive SSB, am, and cw signals in all of the ham bands, 80 through 10. It is primarily designed as a companion receiver for the HX-20 Mobile Transmitter.

The eight tube circuit is of the superheterodyne type. The receiver has a sensitivity of less than one microvolt with a useable signal-to-noise ratio. Sharp selectivity and good image rejection are obtained in a three megacycle I.F. circuit by using a hermetically sealed, lattice type crystal filter.

The signal is fed from the mixer stage directly to the filter. It is then fed from the filter to the grid of the I.F. amplifier. This tends to give am signals a filtered sound and cuts down on the fidelity of the audio. The receiver also features a crystal controlled product stage. The noise limiter stage is very effective in eliminating motor noise. This is a prime factor in mobile operation.

In our opinion, the Heathkit HR-20 receiver is a well engineered piece of equipment and should provide many hours of excellent service.

de - K9LZJ

Do you have a 300-ohm balanced line "fist"? Apparently McVicker does. Alvey Pittman, W9JJC, was demonstrating his 6 - meter FM rig to the Club officers meeting in his home. A temporary antenna, a folded dipole, was hung from the basement ceiling. When the incoming signal picked up sharply, Alvey began twiddling knobs to learn what had happened. A few snickers caused him to turn and see Mac calmly "loading" the antenna with one hand.

Jim Rees, is looking for a cabinet for a HRO-50, to be used at the amateur station in the Blind School. Anyone having one that they no longer need, or knowing where one may be located, is encouraged to get in touch with Jim. By the way you golfers will be looking forward to the opening of Jim's second golf course which will be located at Friends' Woods, Indiana. The scheduled date of opening is early Spring. Just in time to DX the groundhog!

Do you work 40,20, or 15 meters? If so, the AMA-CHEWER would like to hear about your activities. Here again we would like to point out that writing skill or editorial ability is not really necessary. What we are looking for are story ideas in either outline form, or in briefs. Why not check through the log and jot down a brief paragraph or two concerning those intriguing contacts with local, state, national, and international hams? All articles should be sent to the Editor, Lee Easley, 4219 Guilford, AT 3-7494, by the first Friday of each month.

Remember -- a successful club, and likewise a successful club publication depends upon the interest and ambition of each respective member. To insure the continued success which the Indianapolis Radio Club has enjoyed for so many years, and to maintain our position of leadership in the community, the state and the Nation, it is imperative that each individual member strive to add just a little bit to his club.

The biggest news this month is the renewed interest being shown by the hams of this area in that portion of the Six meter band set aside for F.M. transmission. It seems that on everyday that goes by, someone new begins operation with this formative mode of communication.

F.M. has many advantages. It provides good positive communication from point to point, it fulfills the need of many hams to tinker with old equipment, and provides a playground for the experimenter. Among its disadvantages must be listed the need on the part of the individual ham to exercise extreme care in the selection of components when replacing old ones and when building a new power supply.

The ease of operation and the reliability of the equipment leads us to believe that the next few months will see a very sharp increase in the number of amateurs on F.M. Remember that F.M. is not limited to Six-meters alone, but can be used on the two meter band as well.

Hams in the Indianapolis area will be very interested in reading the V.H.F. report in forthcoming issues of the AMA-CHEWER. They will deal directly with a multitude of new ideas as well as providing you with the latest news about V.H.F. hams and their activities.

FOR SALE:

A well built 500-600 watt CW rig in a standard 36" rack cabinet. Band sw. in grid circuit, B-W 1 KW coils in PP 813 final. Pwr supply, 2200v @ 300 ma. \$500.00

C. L. Carter, W9ZWN
FL 7-0119

As we get closer to space travel, people who worry about that sort of thing are trying to devise ways of keeping the crews sane. One way to keep sane, of course, is to get away from people who worry about that sort of thing.

The proposals, like proverbs, all make sense yet all contradict each other: Lone pilots because more would get on each others nerves. Several, because lone pilots would get on their own nerves. Mixed crews to avoid frustration. All male crews, or all female crews, to avoid bloodshed.

We don't think it matters much -- as long as each member of the crew has a HAM RADIO to attend to.

SPLATTER

The postage rate is up, as if we didn't all know it by now. But does your envelope at the QSL Bureau bear that extra cent postage? Or do you even have an envelope there? In either case, better send a self-addressed envelope, large enough to hold large-size QSL cards, and bearing a 5¢ stamp. The QSL Bureau for the "9" call area is: Ray Birren, Box 510 Elmhurst, Illinois.

Back in the good old days when the bands were "open", even TVI reports had a DX flavor. One local ham recalls getting a report that his six meter signal was picked up by a ham watching Channel 2 TV -- in Massachusetts!

Somebody with gaming blood might start making book on how many Conelrad monitors show up at the club auction this spring.

The copy deadline for the next issue of the AMA-CHEWER is February 1st. Get your ideas for Splatter items, articles or photos to the Editor, Lee Easley, 4210 Guilford, AT 3-7494, before that date.

This month's Technifacts concerns Meggers. To some of us, this is a new term. To others, it is a term that is used every day in their laboratory and shop work.

A Megger is a special type of ohm meter for measuring very high resistance, usually on the order of Megohms. Although primarily a device for determining the insulation resistance of cables, the Megger is useful for leakage tests and similar measurement work with transmission lines.

It consists essentially of a moving coil type of meter and a small hand-driven d.c. generator which are mounted together in the same portable case. The meter coil consists of two separate windings, rigidly fixed at right angles to each other, and pivoted so they can turn freely in the field of a permanent magnet. There are no controlling springs; current reaches each winding through flexible copper ligaments, almost without torsion. The coil assembly literally floats between jeweled bearings and, during periods of in-operation, the pointer may assume any position on the scale. When the d.c. generator is operated, one coil winding is energized directly through a series resistor, and the resultant magnetic field causes a turning force in one direction. The second coil winding is energized through the unknown resistor, which causes a turning force in the opposite direction. Consequently, the entire coil assembly rotates until the two opposing magnetic forces are equal and balanced, thus moving the pointer so that it indicates the ohmic value of the unknown resistor directly on a suitable scale. The use of an additional shunt resistance and switch, within the instrument permits two operating ranges.

The Megger is a true ohm meter, capable of measuring very high resistance independent of any fluctuations in the d.c. voltage.

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